

## WASHINGTON CITY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JULY 29, 1857.

## DEATH OF COMMODORE NEWTON.

Our community will not soon recover from the shock which it received yesterday afternoon by the sudden death of Commodore John T. Newton, whose courtesy, accomplishments, bravery, and gallant bearing in the most trying situations have added so much lustre to the American navy. He was a member of one of the naval courts of inquiry now sitting in this city, and at the time of its adjournment, at noon yesterday, appeared to be in the enjoyment of his customary vigorous health. On leaving the court, he walked to the residence of Charles Winder, esq., and in a few minutes after entering the house of that gentleman was attacked with apoplexy—surviving the attack only two hours.

Commodore Newton entered the navy in 1809, and at the time of his death was about 65 years old. Within a few days we have been called upon to announce the deaths of Captain Henry, Lieutenant Decatur, and Lieutenant Hare, and now the name of Newton is to be added to that band of departed spirits the recollection of whose heroic deeds will be long and warmly cherished by their grateful and admiring countrymen.

The following "general order" has been issued by the Secretary of the Navy:

## GENERAL ORDER.

The department, with pain, announces to the navy and marine corps the sudden death from apoplexy of Commodore John T. Newton, who expired in the city of Washington on Tuesday, the 28th instant, at 4 o'clock, p. m. Commodore Newton entered the navy on the 16th of January, 1809, having been in the service nearly half a century, during which period he has occupied various positions of trust and responsibility. His loss will be severely felt.

His funeral will take place from the Messrs. House, on F street, on the 30th instant, at 10 a. m.; at which the officers of the navy and marine corps are directed and the officers of the army requested to attend in full uniform.

I. TOUCHEY.

Secretary of the Navy.

July 28, 1857.

**KANSAS AND THE SOUTHERN DEMOCRACY.**  
The attention of the reader is directed to an article on the position of the southern democracy which appears in a late number of the Columbus (Georgia) Times and Sentinel, and which we have transferred to our columns this morning. The Times is of the opinion that the action of the late Georgia convention in reference to Governor Walker and the administration has been misrepresented; and we, therefore, publish its views and statements the more readily because it is due to those who defend the action of that convention that their position, as explained by themselves, should go before the country. The able editor of the Times and Sentinel was president of the convention, and is presumed to be familiar with the motives and reasons which induced its action. The readers of the Union need no statement from us to show wherein we differ from the article we now publish; but there are points in it about which we feel bound to say a few words.

We permit no one to go ahead of us in admiration of the southern democracy. With them we have fought through evil and good report; in adversity and prosperity we have stood firmly by their colors, mourning in their defeats and sharing in their triumphs; and so have the true and ever-faithful national democracy of the North. It has been, and we trust ever will be, the pride and boast of the democratic party that its principles are as broad as the Union and as national as the constitution. It has carried the country triumphantly through all the dangers which have threatened its peace and harmony; and stands to-day, as it has ever stood, the watchful and faithful guardian of the constitutional rights of all classes of citizens and all sections of the country. The small cloud that was threatening a few weeks since to gather on our southern horizon will pass away. The evidence of this fact comes to us daily from every quarter, and we find confirmation of it in the tone and spirit of our Georgia cotemporary, though not able fully to agree with him in all his conclusions.

It certainly was not our purpose to misrepresent our Georgia friends, nor do we feel that we are justly obnoxious to the charge of having done so. The opposition at the South to the course of Gov. Walker in Kansas grew out of his strong advocacy of the policy of submitting the constitution, when formed, to the people for ratification. Upon that issue we have expressed ourselves in the most unequivocal language. Entertaining no doubt that the people of Kansas—that is, the qualified voters—as we have heretofore explained—should have the opportunity of passing judgment upon the work of their delegates in convention, we have defended that policy with zeal and earnestness. We have believed, and still believe, that such a course on the part of the convention will afford the most satisfactory evidence that the constitution, when formed, will properly reflect the will of the people of Kansas. We have not, and do not now say that it is the only mode by which this evidence can be furnished, but repeat that it is the most satisfactory mode, and we know of none other that would answer so well in its place. When Kansas asks for admission into the Union it is both the right and duty of Congress to know that the constitution presented by her has received the sanction of her people. Upon this point there cannot be a doubt. It is an inquiry which has arisen in the case of the admission of every new State into the Union. In some instances the action of the constitutional convention has been held sufficient, whilst in others the ratification by the people at the polls has been resorted to. There is much in the peculiar circumstances of each case to render the one and the other course the more or less necessary and proper.

Our Georgia cotemporary insists that these are questions for the decision of the convention; that it is the province of the convention—speaking the sovereign voice of the people—to provide for the ratification of the constitution, and to prescribe the qualification of voters. Against this doctrine we have not uttered one word of dissent. We recognize in its fullest extent the powers of a convention assembled under such circumstances, and shall be prepared to vindicate its action so far as that action is conformable to the requirements of the constitution and the organic law of the Territory. We have no doubt that the convention will realize the truth that in presenting its constitution for the admission of Kansas into the Union it should be accompanied with satisfactory evidence that it speaks the voice of the bona fide citizens of Kansas in all its provisions, and they will see to it that the opponents to

her admission shall be left without argument or pretext for their opposition.

We have not the slightest apprehension of a conflict in the ranks of the democracy on this point. We all look with equal confidence to the wisdom and justice which shall mark the proceedings of the convention, and shall, no doubt, all unite in giving effect to their action.

The Times and Sentinel, in common with others who defend the action of the Georgia convention, places its condemnation of Gov. Walker mainly upon the ground that he violated the doctrine of non-intervention by urging the policy of the submission of the constitution to the people, and by threatening to oppose admission if it was not done. If it is right and good policy to submit the constitution to the people, then the urgent advocacy of it by Gov. Walker hardly justifies the extreme denunciation which has been visited upon him; and, upon a close examination, our friends will find that their objection to Gov. Walker's course has originated in no small degree in their opposition to the policy itself, and does not rest solely upon the fact that he advocated it with arguments and threats. It does seem to us that whenever our Georgia friends become entirely reconciled to the propriety and policy of the submission of the constitution to the people for ratification, we shall have proceeded very far in the work of mollifying their hostility to Gov. Walker's advocacy of it.

Of the propriety of this threat at the time and place, and under the circumstances, we have heretofore declined to speak. We refer to it now only to compare it as a violation of the doctrine of non-intervention with the action of the last Congress in the passage of the bill authorizing a constitutional convention in Minnesota. By the provisions of that bill the constitution for Minnesota, when formed by their convention, was required to be submitted to the people for approval. This bill passed through both houses of Congress, without the slightest opposition from any quarter whatever to this provision. If Gov. Walker's argument and threat be an official violation of non-intervention, then the provision of the Minnesota bill is not only an official, but executive and legislative violation of that doctrine. Gov. Walker has only advised what the last Congress commanded should be done. He has threatened to do in one case what Congress has pledged itself to do in a similar case.

Our disposition on this Kansas question has been, and still is, to reason, and not quarrel, with our friends. The unkind and ungenerous criticisms of some of our southern cotemporaries would have justified our feelings to betray us into angry controversy. A certain class of extremists will be satisfied with nothing short of a disruption of the democratic party. They dream both day and night of a sectional organization. It is a phantom worthy only of those who are pursuing it with such ceaseless pertinacity. In common with the great mass of the southern democracy, we stand firmly by our national organization, and in its future triumphs feel an abiding confidence that the great interests of our country will be promoted and advanced.

## HON. THOMAS F. BOWIE.

It gives us much pleasure to announce this morning that Hon. Thomas F. Bowie has been renominated for Congress in the 6th district, Maryland. The convention met at Bladensburg yesterday, and, although Gen. Bowie had several worthy competitors, he was nominated on the first ballot.

## PENNSYLVANIA.

In view of the pending gubernatorial canvass in Pennsylvania, the democratic central committee of that State have just issued an address, in which the issues made by the black-republicans are met and discussed with marked ability. We make room for the following extracts:

"A desperate attempt was made last year to carry the presidential election upon a Kansas agitation, in which the same class of actors appeared that did in the Missouri agitation of 1820—men 'ready to risk the Union for any chance' of establishing their party, 'and wriggling themselves to the head of it.' But a just judgment was pronounced upon these people and their project in the election of Mr. Buchanan, and they will soon be obliged to select some other topic upon which to disturb the public tranquility, and struggle for the attainment of power. Their spasmodic attempts to keep up excitement without any practical or useful object in view, but simply that they may thrive upon discord and passion, are even now received by the public with a feeling bordering very nearly upon contempt."

"The American people are practical and sagacious. They will require some practical good to appear in any movement to which they are invited; and when due time has elapsed for reflection, they will try parties and party measures by the standard of principle and not of professions. The Wilford-Powell party, extinguished by the Whisker on the 7th of March, 1856, in the demonstration of its inability, and was thereupon delivered over to history as an imposture; and approval of the Kansas-Nebraska act of 1854 has been growing more and more general as its conformity to sound principles has been examined and established. That unnecessary things shall not be done, and that the citizens of each political division of the country shall determine their local institutions, are, in fact, propositions so reasonable and just that it is surprising they should ever have been questioned."

## VISIT TO WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

The editor of the Oregon Statesman, in his issue of the 16th ultimo, informs his readers that he has just returned from a three-weeks trip to Puget Sound. After speaking in warm terms of the sociability and hospitality of the generous residents of the Sound, he remarks:

"Between the Columbia river and the Sound there is considerable good farming country, and much of a sandy and gravelly character, not of a superior quality. The country on the Sound is far more extensive than we had supposed; it is said to comprise full two thousand miles of shore line, including islands, of which there are many, and beautiful ones. But a very small portion of this extensive country is claimed. The soil is much of it apparently not of a first-rate quality, though there is some good land. It is nearly all heavily timbered, and possesses lumber capabilities sufficient to supply the world for the next century. The sheet of water is as fine a one as eye ever rested upon, and the country immediately around it is as pleasant and beautiful to look upon as one could wish. Olympia, the capital of the Territory, is well situated at the head of the Sound, and commands a view of it (or will when the trees are cut down) for miles."

The Nashville (Tennessee) Union says that on hearing of the death of Mrs. Zollicoffer Mr. Quarles addressed a note to Gen. Zollicoffer, offering to consider the canvass for Congress closed. The generous proposition was accepted.

Senator Bigler, of Pennsylvania, arrived in this city yesterday, greatly improved in health and spirits by his late western tour. He has taken lodgings at Willards' Hotel.

**GREAT GAME OF BILLIARDS.**—The Albany Express states that the greatest billiard match ever made in this country is shortly to come off between L. J. Higgins, the great Albany player, Michael Phelan, and Ralph Benjamin. These three gentlemen are said to be the greatest billiard players in the world. The match is to take place either in New York, Philadelphia, or Baltimore.

## FOREIGN COMMERCE OF FRANCE.—RELAXATION IN HER NAVIGATION LAWS.

We have already been enabled to spread before our commercial readers, in previous issues of the Union, condensed, but complete, tabular and other statements exhibiting the progress of the foreign commerce of France during the months of January, February, March, and April, respectively, and we now avail ourselves of official documents received by the latest arrivals from Europe in presenting the general condition of French commerce down to May 31st, together with other valuable and interesting information, illustrating the steadily-increasing commercial prosperity of that empire. The navigation returns of France usually claim our first and most careful scrutiny, because this branch of French commercial enterprise, as we have repeatedly shown, has still to struggle in its vain competition with foreign flags, under the odious system of discriminations and restrictions, the necessity for which, if it ever really existed, has long since passed away. Still, we are glad to perceive some indications of a more liberal and enlightened policy in this regard, which is already exhibiting beneficial results. Ship-building materials, of all descriptions, even cotton, if destined to be worked up into sails or canvas, are now admitted free of duty, and, as a natural result of the principle which dictated this relaxation—for the concession in itself is unimportant—the shipping returns before us are, on the whole, satisfactory. They show an increase both in the number and tonnage of French vessels, though still inferior in both respects to those under foreign flags.

The import duties on all descriptions of merchandise amounted during the month of May to \$9,716,037, while in the same month of last year they reached only \$3,017,495, and in the corresponding month of 1855 \$3,310,988. During the first five months of each of these three years the amounts were, respectively, \$15,684,169; \$13,534,949, and \$14,097,949. The following comparative statement exhibits the quantities of the principal imports during the first five months of 1857, 1856, and 1855:

	1857.	1856.	1855.
Woolen and cotton goods	140,000	130,000	120,000
Wine	422,286	117,515	179,798
Spirits	207,264	41,701	80,164
Coffee	133,771	29,972	103,761
Wheat	2,634,724	2,297,275	910,550
Indian corn	1,437,781	1,419,846	181,465
Oats	16,339,235	16,601,450	14,714,869
Chestnuts	436,466	452,904	514,545
Barley	105,149	221,269	159,169
Corn	396,150	548,645	359,090
Foreign sugar	109,409	123,617	126,439
Domestic sugar	122,599	137,411	115,427

The following tabular statement exhibits the principal exports from France in all countries during the same period:

	1857.	1856.	1855.
Woolen and cotton goods	483,507	630,254	455,452
Spirits	90,785	92,919	1,125
Wine	604,708	630,649	424,789
Machinery	319,755	419,846	398,874
Refrigerated meats	11,703	11,703	14,035
Salt	769,552	771,841	841,028
Refined sugar	11,703	11,703	14,035
Cotton fabrics	8,261	4,928	4,701
Woolen fabrics	75,655	25,212	24,235
Wool	90,785	92,919	1,125
Wool with bounties	19,045	18,435	15,810
Wool without bounties	9,723	5,518	9,882
Silk fabrics	11,703	11,703	14,035
Glass and crystal	31,995	35,814	25,840

The most interesting feature to American readers in the preceding table is the gradual increase in the exports of cotton fabrics, though the exportation is, doubtless, greatly stimulated by the system of bounties or premiums. The abolition of duties, however, on the raw material would do more to advance the manufacture and exportation of cotton fabrics from France than the system of premiums, if they were increased tenfold; besides, it would be at once felt in the increased importation of raw cotton from the United States, and on the general trade between the two countries. As it is, the increasing exportation of cotton fabrics during the past three years has already attracted attention at Manchester.

The general returns of the foreign commerce of France, during the three years ending with 1856, exhibit an equally decided and satisfactory progress. The real values of the different descriptions of merchandise imported into France for home consumption, (including the precious metals,) and the real values of French natural and manufactured productions exported, during the last three years, are shown in the following comparative table:

	Imported.	Exported.
1854	\$255,320,000	\$282,740,000
1855	318,800,000	311,580,000
1856	397,960,000	378,620,000

An analysis of the details of the foreign commerce of France, during the period designated, shows that, in imports, live stock, wines and brandies, wheat and flour, cotton, coal, olive oil, silk, iron, copper, lead, and especially wool, present an increase in 1855 over 1854, and in 1856 over 1855; while in exports a steady progress is observable in machinery, furniture, modes, paper, skins, soap, salt, silks, and glass, as also in cotton, woolen, and silk fabrics; while refined sugar exhibits, in 1856, an increase of nearly 100 per cent. over 1854.

There is no doubt that a better and more liberal spirit of commercial legislation is gaining ground daily in France. Some of the ablest periodicals in the empire have warmly espoused the cause, and have defended the principles of the anti-protectionists; and sufficient indications of Napoleon's predilection for free trade have already been given to induce the belief that the time is not very distant when his organs will announce that radical reforms in that regard are indispensable to the prosperity of the empire, and that it is the Emperor's will that they should be consummated. As a preliminary measure, the abolition of the discriminating tonnage duty on American bottoms in French ports would give much encouragement and hope. Not only on steamers, but on sailing vessels, also, this duty should be equalized in both countries. The benefits which such a measure would confer on both countries are incalculable.

## DEATH OF CAPTAIN HENRY.

The death of Capt. Henry is thus announced in the Philadelphia Argus of Monday last:

"We regret to learn that Capt. Henry, of the United States navy, died last evening at York, Pennsylvania, of hemorrhage of the bowels. He was born in Maryland, and was about 67 years of age. He entered the service as sailing-master, July 1, 1812, and was with Commodore Stewart, while that distinguished officer commanded the ship-of-the-line Franklin, in the South Pacific. Capt. Henry's last active service was while he commanded the sloop-of-war Plymouth. Since that time he has resided in Philadelphia, where he leaves a wife and daughter. He was an energetic and intelligent officer, and a warm personal friend. It is understood that his remains will be brought to this city for interment."

Among the visitors at the Greenbrier White Sulphur Springs, Va., are Judge Wayne, of the United States Supreme Court; Senator Slidell, of La.; Gov. Pratt, of Md.; and the wife of Gov. Walker, of Kansas. There are 800 visitors in all.

The Paris Academy of Sciences offers the extraordinary handsome prize of six thousand francs for the best essay on the application of steam to the navy. The essays to be sent in prior to the 1st of November next.

## DEPARTMENT NEWS.

## ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE.

**Captain Wilkes's Case.**—*Opinion of the Attorney General.*—Subjoined is the opinion of the Attorney General in the case of Captain Wilkes, against whom an action of trespass was brought on account of the punishment of one of his men for disobedience of orders given by him while in command of an exploring expedition to the South sea.

## ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE.

July 14, 1857.

Sir: Captain Wilkes, while in command of the exploring expedition, caused one of his men to be punished for disobedience of orders. After his return the man brought an action of trespass against Captain Wilkes, which, after several trials, was abandoned by the plaintiff.

I consider the decision of the Supreme Court and the final termination of the cause under an opinion given by that tribunal as establishing fully that the orders disobeyed by the plaintiff were the lawful orders of his superior officer, and that the punishment for such disobedience was inflicted by Captain Wilkes in the discharge of his proper duty.

Captain Wilkes suffered seriously by this litigation. I think it was finally determined in his favor, his defense put him to a heavy expense, besides the trouble and wear of it. He now demands that the government will reimburse those expenses, and you ask whether, in my opinion, his claim is valid?

When an officer of the United States is sued for doing what he was required to do by law, or by the special orders of the government, he ought to be defended by the government. This is required by the plain principles of justice as well as by sound policy. No man of common prudence would enter the public service if he knew that the performance of his duty would render him liable to be placed at death with lawsuits, which he must carry on at his own expense. For this reason, it has been the uniform practice of the federal government ever since its foundation to take upon itself the defense of its officers who are sued or prosecuted for executing its laws.

In Little v. Barreme, 2 Cranch, 170, the government was asked to pay the defense, but it refused to do so.

I am, very respectfully, yours, &c.

J. S. BLACK.

## INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

**Statement of Mrs. Marble.**—*Application of the Department for Indemnity for Loss of Property.*—Mrs. Marble, who, with others, was recently made a prisoner by a party of Sioux Indians, had an interview with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs yesterday morning. In her application for indemnity for property destroyed by the Indians, she states that on the 13th of March last a party of Sioux Indians, numbering about seventy, of whom thirty were warriors, belonging to Lak-pa-du-tah's band, in company with the United States, came to her residence, on the west side of Spirit Lake, killed her husband, and destroyed and carried away property amounting, in the aggregate, to \$2,229, of which \$700 was gold coin. After having murdered her husband and buried his body in the snow, they claimed as their prisoners Mrs. Noble, Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. Thatcher, and herself, and compelled them to bear heavy burdens, and plod their weary way with their feet entirely naked through snow to the depth of two, three, and four feet, occasionally crossing rivers, when they were forced to wade where oftentimes the water would nearly immerse their persons, and compel them to ward off the drifting ice with their feeble hands to keep it from bruising their shivering bodies. In this manner they were driven before the savages for the space of ten weeks, during which time the savages were allowed to abuse them in the most cruel manner, striking them with clubs, axes, &c.; and their sufferings were of such a character that language is inadequate to the task of a truthful description. After suffering these hardships and privations, she was rescued by a party of friendly Lac-Peuri Indians, to whom Agent Flandreau paid \$1,000 for her ransom. Some two weeks before her release, Mrs. Thatcher was thrown into the Big Sioux river. Upon attempting to get out, her balls were fired into her body until she expired. Her husband, prior to his murder, held a pre-emption claim for 160 acres of land, on which he had settled; and Mrs. Marble believes that she is entitled to appropriate compensation to the amount of \$209, in lieu of this claim, which she was forced to abandon. She adds that she has not received any portion of the property which she has specified, and has not herself, nor through others, sought to obtain redress on these Indians. She, therefore, claims indemnity under the seventeenth section of the act of Congress of June 30th, 1831, and prays the department to retain a sufficient amount from the annuities which may be due to this title of claim to satisfy her claim, as she is in indigent circumstances. If it cannot be done, then she petitions the department to present her case for the favorable consideration of the next Congress.

**Land Funds Accounts with States.**—An account has been submitted by the Commissioner of the General Land Office between the United States and the State of Missouri for the three-per-cent. fund accruing to the latter during the years 1855 and 1856, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 8th March, 1850, as amended, of \$79,090.09 found to be due the State of Missouri. Also, between the United States and the State of Arkansas for the five-per-cent. fund accruing to the latter during the years 1855 and 1856, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 23d June, 1836, and a balance of \$18,700.79 found to be due the State of Arkansas.

Also, between the United States and the State of Florida for the five-per-cent. fund accruing to the latter during the years 1855 and 1856, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved March 3, 1855, and a balance of \$5,535.18 found to be due the State of Florida. Also, between the United States and the State of Illinois for the three-per-cent. fund accruing to the latter during the year 1856, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved April 18, 1818, and a balance of \$13,791.69 found to be due the State of Illinois.

**The Wagon Road.**—The party, under the direction of Superintendent Leach, now on their way to open the El Paso and Fort Yuma wagon-road to California, were at Desert, Arkansas, on the 15th inst. The Nebraska wagon road party were at Du Roch, Utah, on the 10th inst. The health of both parties was excellent.

**Leads Retained to Sale.**—The General Land Office has given notice to the Greenbrier land office, in the State of Louisiana, to restore to sale at private entry and local sale all lands having been withdrawn heretofore for railroad purposes.

**The Case of Legerous and Leonides Pichay.**—It will be recollected that Legerous and Leonides Pichay, sons of Col. Pichay, the agent of the Choctaw Indians, in their business with the general government, were convicted at the United States circuit court for the western district of Arkansas in November, 1856, of an assault with intent to kill, and sentenced to three years' imprisonment in the penitentiary. Since that time, after thorough investigation, circumstances have transpired which have induced the President to pardon them.

## NAVY DEPARTMENT.

**Advisers from Panama.**—Returns to the United States of General Walker's Men.—*Quint of the Lebanon.*—Our Affairs with New Granada.—*The Independence and John Adams.*—Interesting intelligence was received at the Navy Department yesterday morning from Panama. The Navy, Captain Montgomery, had been ordered to sail for the United States with two hundred and fifty-six of General Walker's men on the 21st. The sick list of General Walker's men had decreased from one hundred and twenty to fifty-nine. On the 7th and 14th inst., respectively, John Smith and Charles Striebeling, of the Nicaragua party, died of the disease which they had brought on board the Roanoke. Francis Brennan, one of the firemen of the Roanoke, died on the 6th inst.

Everything was quiet at Aspinwall and throughout the Isthmus. The latest advices from Bogota indicate the

## TWO WEEKS LATER FROM CALIFORNIA AND THE PACIFIC.—DETAILS OF THE NEWS BY THE ILLINOIS.

The California mails by the steamer Illinois, which arrived at New York from Aspinwall on Monday last, reached this city yesterday morning. Our San Francisco dates are to the 8th instant, inclusive. We copy the following from the San Francisco Bulletin of that date:

Of the members elected to the democratic gubernatorial convention, but forty-two are understood to be favorable to McCorkle, while Weller, his opponent, has 134, and Nugent 11 friends. There is little doubt that Weller will be nominated on the first ballot of the convention, which meets on the 15th July.

The republicans have also begun to elect the delegates to their convention, which is to assemble at Sacramento on the 8th July. Captain Thomas Gray, Edward Stanley, Colonel E. D. Baker, and several others, are spoken of as the gubernatorial candidates of this party.

Resides the nominees of these two parties, there is some talk running a third and independent candidate by the "reformers" or "people's party."

The "stamp act" passed by the last legislature went into effect on the 1st of July. By it all exchange, drafts, etc., drawn upon parties out of the State, are taxed by stamps, as are policies of insurance, passage tickets abroad, professional licenses, &c. &c. The bill is very obnoxious to the people in this city.

Business continues to be unusually depressed in San Francisco and several of our heaviest houses have been forced to suspend. In these times of difficulty the odious features of our attachment, insolvent, and homestead laws, have been prominently brought into notice, and a general determination to have them remedied has been awakened. At present they but offer opportunities and premiums for the perpetration of rascality and fraud.

Considerable attention is being attracted to the Grand State Industrial Fair, which is to be held in this city on the 7th of December.

Our news from Oregon Territory is to the 20th June. The vote in favor of a State government is fully confirmed. The policy of making Oregon a slave State is now zealously urged by a party in that Territory, and the prospect for a pro-slavery paper, the Oregonian, is bright. Some little fears were entertained of further Indian difficulties at the Dalles, but nothing definite has transpired.

## THE CONVENTION QUESTION IN OREGON.

We copy the following from the San Francisco Herald: The convention question has been carried in Oregon Territory. The people, in pursuance of the act passed by the last session of Congress, have at length come to the determination of assuming the responsibility of self-government. The question was carried almost unanimously. It cannot be said that the people of Oregon have acted without due deliberation. For the last three years the question of the formation of a State constitution has been submitted to them at every election, and as often defeated. At the last it was carried almost without a dissenting voice. Our neighbors are in all probability to be commended for the caution which has marked their course in this matter. Over-zealous individuals have frequently endeavored to push the Territory along at railroad speed, but the people resisted the pressure till such time as they thought they would be justified in taking so momentous a step as that of forming a State government.

That time has now arrived, and Oregon, by the votes of its citizens, is to be a State, and two more senators and one representative in the lower house will be added to the delegation from the Pacific coast to the next Congress. That Oregon is to be a State immediately is now a "fixed fact." The only question to be determined at this time is as to the character of its institutions. The question of slavery entered more or less into the late canvass. Gen. Lane, who has been re-elected to the position of delegate to Congress by a handsome majority, is understood to be in favor of the establishment of slavery, and since the result of the election has been declared, we find a prospect of a new paper favorable to slavery in Oregon has been issued. From its extracts the following:

"Not wishing to occupy an equivocal position on any question, we here distinctly avow our intentions in favor of the institution of slavery, and in the formation of a State constitution will yield an ardent and unwavering support in favor of its introduction into Oregon, to develop its agricultural resources, believing that it would add a new guarantee to the permanence of our glorious Union. But upon this, as upon all other questions, we shall address ourselves to the reason and intelligence of the people, prepared to abide their decision, whatever it may be."

In this connection we give below an extract from the Times, one of the leading democratic papers of the Territory. It breathes the right spirit:

"In accordance with a resolution of the democratic territorial convention of April last, the question of slavery will be submitted directly to the decision of the people. A clause will be appended to that instrument (the constitution) establishing slavery, and another providing for its prohibition; and in that way the question will be disposed of at the ballot-box by the people, who alone are interested in the permanent or establishment of slavery in Oregon. The convention to which we allude, regarding this as a question of purely individual action, and to remove it from the pale of the political arena, unanimously declared against making it, under any circumstances, a test question. It is, therefore, so far as the democratic party of the Territory is concerned, an issue upon which its members will vote their own honest convictions without in any manner affecting, either in the present or future, their standing as partisans. So much for the noble attitude assumed by the democracy of Oregon. If the issue is determined in favor of a free State, many will more cheerfully acquiesce in that popular decision than the most ultra pro-slavery democracy among us. They mean what they say when they talk of submission to the will of the majority; but it is not so with the black-republican enthusiast. He must, though he be in a hopeless minority, roll or spread his puny hands in invocation to ruin."

## THE ELECTION IN OREGON.

The Oregon Times of June 13th says:

Although, thus far, our returns are very incomplete, and to some considerable extent dependent upon rumor, and enough is certainly known to warrant us in assuring our readers that General Lane, the democratic nominee for delegate to Congress, is re-elected by a majority even greater than that of 1855; that the convention question has been carried almost without opposition; that to the constitutional convention we have elected an overwhelming democratic majority, and that the next legislative assembly is also democratic. The people of Oregon have spoken, and their voice, condensing all the political elements of black republicanism at this early hour, gives welcome presage of what remains to be effected, when, with their contemplated "thorough organization," the negro-worshippers shall hoist here in Oregon their disunion banner, and cry, "No union with the States," sending all the free States of our confederation into this result rests for long years to come unmistakable evidence of the fact that if the democracy of Oregon remain true to themselves, to the constitution, and to the great fundamental principles of the democratic party, Oregon must continue to be as her people have so nobly declared, her in this election—*democratic to the core!* It is decided that our State constitution shall be framed by democratic hands, and now, with a purely democratic constitution, we are destined to enter upon our State sovereignty not only under democratic auspices, but with every assurance that a vast and overwhelming majority of our people, appreciating the blessings of our glorious Union, will never, in all time to come, aid, or directly or remotely sanction, the schemes of any political organization whose purposes comprehend the disturbance of the peace and harmony of the Union. The true sentiment of our people is now in the language of the lamented hero of the Hermitage: "The Union it must and shall be preserved!"